

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 were submitted for examination. Claims 1-17 have been rejected. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14 have been amended.

No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and reexamination of the above-referenced patent application, is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection – Quibodeaux

Claims 1-5, and 7-17 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,034,602 to Quibodeaux ("Quibodeaux").

Independent claim 1 recites in part:

"a sensor; and

a display, power to which is to be decreased by dimming brightness level  
in response to a detection of absence of a user by the sensor."

(Emphasis added).

Quibodeaux teaches that "any time, the user is away from the computer, and the time frame exceeds the set time delay...the monitor switch interrupts power to the monitor, causing it to shut down, thereby saving energy...". (Col. 2, lines 16-26). The Examiner admits this in section 11 on page 3 of the Office Action, stating "Quibodeaux teaches that the display is powered off".

In contrast, the invention as claimed in claim 1 indicates that power to the display is to be decreased by dimming brightness level in response to a detection of absence of a user.

Applicants submit that, at least for the above reason, the 102(b) rejection has been overcome and that claim 1 is patentable over Quibodeaux. Since

claims 2-6 depend from and further limit claim 1, they are also patentable over Quibodeaux.

Applicants submit that, at least for the same reason, independent claims 7, 12 and their dependent claims 8-12 and 14-17 are also patentable over Quibodeaux.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection – Miura

Claim 1 has been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,518,561 to Miura ("Miura").

Independent claim 1 recites in part:

"a sensor; and

a display, power to which is to be decreased by dimming brightness level  
in response to a detection of absence of a user by the sensor."

(Emphasis added).

Miura teaches a user detection circuit that detects absence of the user in front of the display screen and thereby switches the normal operation of the display apparatus to power-saving standby operation for allowing the display apparatus to suspend display and standby. (Col. 2, lines 52-58).

In contrast, the invention as claimed in claim 1 indicates that power to the display is to be decreased by dimming brightness level in response to a detection of absence of a user.

Applicants submit that, at least for the above reason, the 102(e) rejection has been overcome, and that claim 1 is patentable over Miura. Since claims 2-6 depend from and further limit claim 1, they are also patentable over Miura.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) – Miura & Janutka

Claim 6 has been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miura in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,173,233 to Janutka, et al. ("Janutka").

Since claim 6 depends from and further limits claim 1, and since claim 1 is presented above as being patentable over Miura, applicants submit that claim 6 is also patentable and the 103(a) rejection has been overcome.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call David Tran at (408) 765-4692.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0221 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,



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